

MR. [RALPH A.] GAMBLE [of New York]: Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 29) making unlawful the requirement for the payment of a poll tax as a prerequisite to voting in a primary or other election for national officers.

After the House defeated a motion to adjourn and after the Speaker ruled out as dilatory a point of no quorum, the following occurred:

MR. [TOM] PICKETT [of Texas]: Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent—

THE SPEAKER:⁽¹⁶⁾ The Chair will refuse to entertain any unanimous-consent requests until after the vote on this bill.

§ 45. Objecting to Requests

Rising to Object

§ 45.1 When objecting to a unanimous-consent request a Member must rise from his seat.

On Feb. 20, 1946,⁽¹⁷⁾ the House was considering H.R. 3370, the school lunch program, when the following occurred:

THE CHAIRMAN:⁽¹⁸⁾ The time of the gentleman from Texas has expired.

16. Joseph W. Martin, Jr. (Mass.).

17. 92 CONG. REC. 1500, 79th Cong. 2d Sess.

18. Henry M. Jackson (Wash.).

MR. [WILLIAM R.] POAGE [of Texas]: Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to proceed for five additional minutes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

MR. [WILLIAM J.] GALLAGHER [of Minnesota]: Mr. Chairman, I object.

MR. [JOHN E.] RANKIN [of Mississippi]: Mr. Chairman, a point of order.

THE CHAIRMAN: The gentleman will state it.

MR. RANKIN: To make an objection a Member has to rise to object.

The Chairman: The point of order is well taken.

Time for Objection

§ 45.2 An objection to a unanimous-consent request is properly made to the request put by the Chair, not as put by the Member making the request.

On Sept. 4, 1940,⁽¹⁾ Mr. Beverly M. Vincent, of Kentucky, and Mr. Martin L. Sweeney, of Ohio, became engaged in an acrimonious personal debate; Mr. Vincent sought to withdraw a remark in which he referred to Mr. Sweeney as a traitor:

MR. VINCENT of Kentucky: Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw the last sentence of my statement.

1. 86 CONG. REC. 11516, 11517, 76th Cong. 3d Sess.

MR. [HENRY C.] DWORSHAK [of Idaho]: I object, Mr. Speaker.

THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE:⁽²⁾ The gentleman from Kentucky asks unanimous consent to withdraw the statement. Is there objection? The Chair hears none.

§ 45.3 It is too late to object to a unanimous-consent request after the Chair has asked if there is objection and has announced that he hears none.

On Sept. 4, 1940,⁽³⁾ Mr. Beverly M. Vincent, of Kentucky, sought unanimous consent to withdraw part of a statement he made about Mr. Martin L. Sweeney, of Ohio.

THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE:⁽⁴⁾ The gentleman from Kentucky asks unanimous consent to withdraw the statement. Is there objection? The Chair hears none.

MR. [FREDERICK V.] BRADLEY of Michigan: I object, Mr. Speaker.

Subsequently Mr. Clare E. Hoffman, of Michigan, rose with a point of order.

MR. HOFFMAN: Mr. Speaker, a point of order and a parliamentary inquiry.

THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE: The gentleman will state it.

MR. HOFFMAN: Mr. Speaker, a moment ago certain words were uttered

2. Jere Cooper (Tenn.).

3. 86 CONG. REC. 11516, 11517, 76th Cong. 3d Sess.

4. Jere Cooper (Tenn.).

by the gentleman on the floor of the House which I demanded be taken down. No report was made of those words. I demand the regular order—the taking down of the words, the report of the words, and the reading by the Clerk.

THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE: Subsequently, unanimous consent was granted for the words to be withdrawn.

MR. HOFFMAN: Oh, no, Mr. Speaker; three Members were on their feet. I was one of them, and objecting to that.

THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE: That was the ruling of the Chair.

§ 45.4 The Chair may decline to recognize a Member seeking unanimous consent where that Member rejects the Chair's suggestion that the request be temporarily withheld.

On Dec. 15, 1937,⁽⁵⁾ the Committee of the Whole was considering S. 2475, the wages and hours bill, when the following took place:

MR. [SCHUYLER OTIS] BLAND [of Virginia]: Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that any substitute which may be offered for the pending bill and adopted shall, when adopted, be open to amendment as though it were the original bill.

THE CHAIRMAN:⁽⁶⁾ The Chair has already suggested to the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. McReynolds], who pro-

5. 82 CONG. REC. 1571, 75th Cong. 2d Sess.

6. John W. McCormack (Mass.).

pounded a similar unanimous-consent request, that the gentleman withhold temporarily his request.

MR. BLAND: I prefer to submit mine now as to the offering of a substitute.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair exercises the right of declining to recognize the gentleman for that purpose.

Objection by Presiding Officer

§ 45.5 A Chairman of the Committee of the Whole does not lose his right to object to a unanimous-consent request.

On Dec. 9, 1947,⁽⁷⁾ the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, Earl C. Michener, of Michigan, made the following statement:

As the Chair understands the rule, the presiding officer in the Committee is in a dual capacity. First, he is selected to be the presiding officer during the consideration of the bill. But by accepting such appointment he does not lose his right to vote and object as any other Member. That is, his district is not deprived of its rights by virtue of the Chairman selection.

Effect of Objection; Withdrawal

§ 45.6 A unanimous-consent request does not remain pending after an objection thereto has been made; and the objecting Member cannot sub-

sequently withdraw his objection so as to revive the request.

On Nov. 24, 1937,⁽⁸⁾ the Speaker, William B. Bankhead, of Alabama, recognized Mr. Ralph E. Church, of Illinois, to propound a parliamentary inquiry:

MR. CHURCH: Mr. Speaker, earlier in the day the majority leader asked unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today it adjourn to meet on Friday next. I reserved the right to object. Under my right to object I proceeded to make a short statement.

THE SPEAKER: Will the gentleman please submit his parliamentary inquiry?

MR. CHURCH: I am submitting it. I made the reservation of objection for the purpose of making a short statement. Then someone called for the regular order, which forced me to object. I have been able since that time to make my statement, and now, Mr. Speaker, if I withdraw my objection, which I am willing to do, and now do, is it in order and will the request of the gentleman from Texas prevail?

THE SPEAKER: The Chair will state in answer to the inquiry of the gentleman that no request is now pending before the House to which he could object or not object.

7. 93 CONG. REC. 11231, 80th Cong. 1st Sess.

8. 82 CONG. REC. 368, 75th Cong. 2d Sess.